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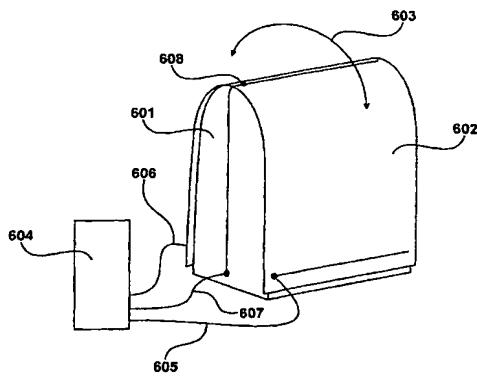
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DEVICE TO MEASURE A MANUALLY APPLIED PRESSURE



(57) Abstract: A manually deformable input device responsive to manually applied pressure. The input device comprises a deformable electroconductive material (602) configured to exhibit changes in conductance (resistance) in response to being stretched or compressed, from which an extent of manually applied pressure can be determined. An electrical interface device (604) is configured to supply electrical current through the electroconductive material (602) via a first terminal (605) and a second terminal (606), and the input device further comprises a third terminal (607) connected at a position intermediate the first and second terminals. The electrical interface device (604) is configured to receive a voltage from the third terminal (607), which is representative of a proportion of voltage drop across the electroconductive material (602). The input device operates as a potential divider sensitive to manual operation irrespective of the absolute conductance (resistance) of the electroconductive material (602).

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category ^a	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6 360 615 B1 (SMELA ELISABETH) 26 March 2002 (2002-03-26) figure 3 claims 1,2 column 11, lines 6-11 column 13, lines 54-58	1-17
Y	EP 1 176 398 A (ALPS ELECTRIC CO LTD) 30 January 2002 (2002-01-30) figure 1 page 1, lines 22,23	1-17
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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